

REMARKS

In the Final Rejection, all claims (1-18) stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,272,470 to Teshima in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,734,915 to Roewer. In view of the cancellation of claims 1-18, this ground of rejection is deemed to be moot.

The Applicant submits that the linked list of exam descriptions and the graphical screen that allowed interaction with that linked list are not shown in the cited references. New claims 19-30 have been submitted which are believed to capture these distinctions in clear language. It is also noted that these new claims further recite that an exam description listed on one screen can be selected and then that selected exam description will appear automatically in an Exam Description field on another screen. This feature is also not disclosed in either Teshima or Roewer.

In addition, the cited references neither disclose nor suggest a computer programmed with exam description management software to allow the construction of a linked list of exam descriptions using a graphical screen and the transfer of the constructed list from the hard disk to a magneto-optical disk, as recited in new independent claim 31. This feature allows a user to transport a customized exam description list from one imaging system to another imaging system.

In view of the foregoing, the Applicant submits that this continued prosecution application is in condition for allowance. Early examination and allowance of claims 19-35 are hereby requested.

**SUBMISSION OF CLEAN CLAIMS
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR § 1.121**

In compliance with 37 CFR § 1.121, the Applicant hereby submits "clean" copies of the claims now pending in this continued prosecution application as follows:

PENDING CLAIMS:

1. Canceled.
2. Canceled.
3. Canceled.
4. Canceled.
5. Canceled.
6. Canceled.
7. Canceled.
8. Canceled.
9. Canceled.
10. Canceled.
11. Canceled.
12. Canceled.
13. Canceled.

14. Canceled.

15. Canceled.

16. Canceled.

17. Canceled.

18. Canceled.

19. An imaging system comprising:

an operator interface for enabling an operator to input selections to said system;

a display screen;

a control platform for controlling said display screen to display a first screen comprising a Patient's Name field for displaying a patient's name and an Exam Description field for displaying an exam description in response to a first selection input by the operator via said operator interface; and

an exam list manager for controlling said display screen to display a second screen in place of said first screen in response to a second selection input by the operator via said operator interface, said second screen comprising a multiplicity of Exam Description fields in list format for displaying a corresponding multiplicity of exam descriptions in a stored linked list of exam descriptions arranged in alphabetic order, an Edit field in which the operator can enter an exam description to be added to said linked list, and a first activation zone for activating the insertion in alphabetic order of the exam description in said Edit field to said displayed list of exam descriptions in response to clicking on said first activation zone via said operator interface,

wherein said control platform further controls said display screen to display an updated version of said first screen in place of said second screen in response to selection of one of said exam descriptions displayed on said second screen via said operator interface followed by a third selection input by the operator via said operator interface, said Exam Description field of said updated version of said first screen displaying said selected exam description.

20. The system as recited in claim 19, further comprising a hard disk and means for writing said linked list to said hard disk.

21. The system as recited in claim 19, wherein said exam list manager further controls said display screen to display a second activation zone for activating the deletion of the exam description in said Edit field from said displayed list of exam descriptions in response to clicking on said second activation zone via said operator interface.

22. The system as recited in claim 21, wherein said exam list manager further controls said display screen to display a third activation zone for activating the deletion of all exam descriptions in said displayed list in response to clicking on said third activation zone via said operator interface.

23. The system as recited in claim 19, further comprising:

a networking port for communicating with a remote device on a network;

an image acquisition subsystem for acquiring frames of image data;

memory storing acquired frames of image data in respective image files;

an object constructing task for constructing a data object comprising a frame of image data from one of said image files and said selected exam description; and

a network manager for transferring said data object from said object constructing task to said networking port destined for said remote device.

24. The system as recited in claim 19, further comprising an image acquisition subsystem for acquiring frames of image data, said image acquisition subsystem comprising an ultrasound transducer array.

25. An imaging system comprising:

an operator interface for enabling an operator to input selections to said system;

a display screen; and

a computer programmed to perform the following steps:

(a) controlling said display screen to display a first screen comprising a Patient's Name field for displaying a patient's name and an Exam Description field for displaying an exam description in response to a first selection input by the operator via said operator interface;

(b) controlling said display screen to display a second screen in place of said first screen in response to a second selection input by the operator via said operator interface, said second screen comprising a multiplicity of Exam Description fields in list format for displaying a corresponding multiplicity of exam descriptions in a stored linked list of exam descriptions arranged in alphabetic order, an Edit field in which the operator can enter an exam description to be added to said linked list, and a first activation zone for activating the insertion in alphabetic

order of the exam description in said Edit field to said displayed list of exam descriptions in response to clicking on said first activation zone via said operator interface; and

(c) controlling said display screen to display an updated version of said first screen in place of said second screen in response to selection of one of said exam descriptions displayed on said second screen via said operator interface followed by a third selection input by the operator via said operator interface, said Exam Description field of said updated version of said first screen displaying said selected exam description.

26. The system as recited in claim 25, further comprising a hard disk, said computer being further programmed to write said linked list to said hard disk in response to a Save command input via said operator interface.

27. The system as recited in claim 25, wherein said computer is further programmed to control said display screen to display a second activation zone for activating the deletion of the exam description in said Edit field from said displayed list of exam descriptions in response to clicking on said second activation zone via said operator interface.

28. The system as recited in claim 27, wherein said computer is further programmed to control said display screen to display a third activation zone for activating the deletion of all exam descriptions in said displayed list in response to clicking on said third activation zone via said operator interface.

29. The system as recited in claim 25, further comprising a networking port for communicating with a remote device on a network, and an image acquisition subsystem for acquiring frames of image data, wherein said computer is further programmed with:

an object constructing task for constructing a data object comprising an acquired frame of image data and said selected description; and

a network manager for transferring said data object from said object constructing task to said networking port destined for said remote device.

30. The system as recited in claim 25, further comprising an ultrasound transducer array controlled by an image acquisition subsystem for acquiring frames of image data, said image acquisition subsystem in turn being controlled by said computer.

31. An imaging system comprising:

an operator interface for enabling an operator to input selections to said system;

a display screen;

a hard disk;

a transportable storage medium; and

a computer programmed with exam description management software that allows a system user to construct a linked list of exam descriptions using a graphical interface displayed on said display screen, said constructed list being written to said hard disk, and system presets reading software that allows a system user to read all system presets, including said constructed list, from said hard disk and save said system presets to said transportable storage medium by inputting a save instruction input using said operator interface.

32. The system as recited in claim 31, wherein said exam description management software allows said computer to perform the steps of controlling said display screen to display a first

screen in response to the input of a Select Exam Description Screen instruction by the operator via said operator interface, said first screen comprising a multiplicity of Exam Description fields in list format for displaying a corresponding multiplicity of exam descriptions from a stored linked list of exam descriptions arranged in alphabetic order, an Edit field in which the operator can enter an exam description to be added to or deleted from said linked list, a first activation zone for activating the insertion in alphabetic order of the exam description in said Edit field to said displayed list and said stored linked list of exam descriptions in response to clicking on said first activation zone via said operator interface, and a second activation zone for activating the deletion of the exam description in said Edit field from said displayed list and said stored linked list of exam descriptions in response to clicking on said second activation zone via said operator interface.

33. The system as recited in claim 32, wherein said exam description management software further allows said computer to perform the following steps:

controlling said display screen to display a second screen comprising a Patient's Name field for displaying a patient's name and an Exam Description field for displaying an exam description in response to the input of a Select New Patient Screen instruction by the operator via said operator interface; and

controlling said display screen to display an updated version of said second screen in place of said first screen in response to selection of one of said exam descriptions displayed on said first screen via said operator interface followed by the input of a Select Exam Description instruction by the operator via said operator interface, said Exam Description field of said updated version of said second screen

displaying said exam description selected from said displayed list on said first screen.

34. The system as recited in claim 31, further comprising a networking port for communicating with a remote device on a network, and an image acquisition subsystem for acquiring frames of image data, wherein said computer is further programmed with:

an object constructing task for constructing a data object comprising an acquired frame of image data and said selected description; and

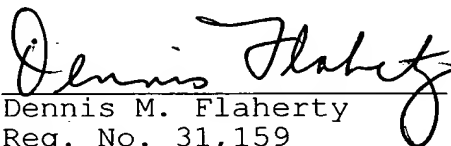
a network manager for transferring said data object from said object constructing task to said networking port destined for said remote device.

35. The system as recited in claim 31, further comprising an ultrasound transducer array controlled by an image acquisition subsystem for acquiring frames of image data, said image acquisition subsystem in turn being controlled by said computer.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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July 3, 2003

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